

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A backlight unit for a liquid crystal display, comprising:

a light guide plate having a light emitting surface, a light receiving lateral side, a first coupling lateral side, and a second coupling lateral side, the first coupling lateral side having a first coupling member and the second coupling lateral side having a second coupling member, wherein the first coupling lateral side and the second coupling lateral side are generally perpendicular to the light emitting surface;

a diffusing means corresponding to the light emitting surface;

a reflector disposed along the light receiving lateral side, said reflector having a reflective cover, an opening, a first holder, and a second holder, the opening positioned toward the light receiving lateral side, the first holder extending toward the first coupling lateral side and the second holder extending toward the second coupling lateral side, the first holder having a first linking member, and the second holder having a second linking member; and

a light source installed inside the reflector, the light emitted from the light source being reflected by the reflective cover and transmitted into the light guide plate, wherein the first and second coupling members are respectively directly combined with the first and second linking members for assembling the reflector and the light guide plate, and a predetermined distance is formed between the light source and the light guide plate.

Claim 2 (original): The backlight unit according to claim 1, wherein the first coupling member is a protrusion, the first linking member is a recess, and the protrusion is positioned in the recess when the first coupling member combines with the first linking member.

Claim 3 (original): The backlight unit according to claim 2, wherein the recess has an opening and a bottom, the protrusion has a top surface approaching the opening of the recess and a bottom surface approaching the bottom of the recess, and the area of the top surface is larger than the area of the bottom surface.

Claim 4 (original): The backlight unit according to claim 3, wherein the protrusion has a wedged shape.

Claim 5 (original): The backlight unit according to claim 3, wherein the protrusion has a triangular wedged shape.

Claim 6 (original): The backlight unit according to claim 1, wherein the reflector further includes a base cover, an angle is formed between the first holder and the base cover, the angle is less than 90 degrees;

as the light guide plate expands when heated, the light guide plate pushes the first holder and the first angle is increased to form a space, and the expanding portion of the light guide plate is received in the space.

Claim 7 (original): The backlight unit according to claim 1, further comprising a reflecting sheet positioned under the light guide plate.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): The backlight unit according to claim ~~[[8]]~~¹, wherein the diffusing means comprises a diffusing sheet, a prism sheet, and a protecting film.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The backlight unit according to claim 1, wherein the light source, the reflector, the reflective cover, the first linking member, the second linking member, the first holder, and the second holder are all combined into one piece.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The backlight unit according to claim 1, wherein the light source and the reflector are integrally formed in one piece.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A backlight unit for a liquid crystal display, comprising:

- a light guide plate having a light receiving lateral side, a first coupling lateral side, and a second coupling lateral side, the first coupling lateral side having a first coupling member and the second coupling lateral side having a second coupling member;

- a reflector disposed along the light receiving lateral side, said reflector having a reflective cover, an opening, a first holder, and a second holder, the opening positioned toward the light receiving lateral side, the first holder extending toward the first coupling lateral side and the second holder extending toward the second coupling lateral side, the first holder having a first linking member, and the second holder having a second linking member; and

- a light source installed inside the reflector, the light emitted from the light source being reflected by the reflective cover and transmitted into the light guide plate,

- wherein the first and second coupling members are respectively combined with the first and second linking members for assembling the reflector and the light guide plate, and a predetermined distance is formed between the reflector and the light guide plate,

- wherein the first coupling member is a protrusion, the first linking member is a recess, and the protrusion is positioned in the recess when the first coupling member combines with the first linking member, and

- wherein the recess has an opening and a bottom, the protrusion has a top surface approaching the opening of the recess and a bottom surface approaching the bottom of the recess, and the area of the top surface is larger than the area of the bottom surface.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A backlight unit for a liquid crystal display, comprising:

- a light guide plate having a light receiving lateral side, a first coupling lateral side, and a second coupling lateral side, the first coupling lateral side having a first coupling member and the second coupling lateral side having a second coupling member;

- a reflector disposed along the light receiving lateral side, said reflector having a reflective cover, an opening, a first holder, and a second holder, the opening positioned

toward the light receiving lateral side, the first holder extending toward the first coupling lateral side and the second holder extending toward the second coupling lateral side, the first holder having a first linking member, and the second holder having a second linking member; and

a light source installed inside the reflector, the light emitted from the light source being reflected by the reflective cover and transmitted into the light guide plate,

wherein the first and second coupling members are respectively combined with the first and second linking members for assembling the reflector and the light guide plate, and a predetermined distance is formed between the reflector and the light guide plate,

wherein the reflector further includes a base cover, an angle is formed between the first holder and the base cover, the angle is less than 90 degrees; as the light guide plate expands when heated, the light guide plate pushes the first holder and the first angle is increased to form a space, and the expanding portion of the light guide plate is received in the space.

Claim 14 (new): A backlight unit for a liquid crystal display, comprising:

a light guide plate having a light emitting surface, a light receiving lateral side, a first coupling lateral side, and a second coupling lateral side, the first coupling lateral side having a first coupling member and the second coupling lateral side having a second coupling member, wherein the first coupling lateral side and the second coupling lateral side are roughly perpendicular to the light emitting surface;

a diffusing means corresponding to the light emitting surface;

a reflector disposed along the light receiving lateral side, said reflector having a reflective cover, an opening, a first holder, and a second holder, the opening positioned toward the light receiving lateral side, the first holder extending toward the first coupling lateral side and the second holder extending toward the second coupling lateral side, the first holder having a first linking member, and the second holder having a second linking member; and

a light source installed inside the reflector, the light emitted from the light source being reflected by the reflective cover and transmitted into the light guide plate,

wherein the first and second coupling members are concave-convex members, wherein the first and second coupling members are respectively directly combined with the first and second linking members for assembling the reflector and the light guide plate, and a predetermined distance is formed between the light source and the light guide plate.